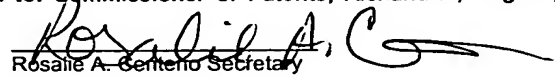




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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents, Alexandria, Virginia, 22313-1450 on April 15, 2004.

  
Rosalie A. Centeno Secretary

In the Application of Norbert Apfel et al

Ser.No.: 10/026,099

Filed: December 21, 2001

For: CUTTING BLADE FOR A MOTOR-DRIVEN MANUALLY GUIDED  
IMPLEMENT

Commissioner of Patents

Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

In accordance with 37 CFR § 1.56, Applicant wishes to call the attention of the Examiner to the following references:

- 1) DE 38 07 105
- 2) AU 20520/88
- 3) US 5,299,414
- 4) US 3,910,017
- 5) US 4,302,878
- 6) DE 1 701 294

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Reference 1 discloses a cutting blade (13) for a rotary mower consists of flat material and has at least one stamping (15, 45).

References 2 – 5 are in the English language and therefore need no further discussion as to their relevance.

Reference 6, discloses an invention that is knife section for cutter bars in a harvester. The center part of the knife section is pressed from the support side upward out of the knife plane and thus the knife section comes to rest only in the region of the cutting edges. References 1-2 have been cited in the International Search Report and are submitted to provide the Examiner easy access to said references.

Copies of the listed documents are submitted herewith along with the form PTO-1449.

It is respectfully requested that any fees required and not enclosed herewith or any shortages in any fees be charged to Deposit Account 02-1653.

Consideration of the foregoing in relation to this application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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RWB/rac  
Enclosures



<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>		<b>C mplete if Known</b>	
		<b>Application Number</b>	10/026,099
		<b>Filing Date</b>	December 21, 2001
		<b>First Named Inventor</b>	Norbert Apfel et al
		<b>Group Art Unit</b>	
		<b>Examiner Name</b>	
		<b>Attorney Docket No.</b>	A 91 206

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Patent Number Pub. Number	Issue Date Pub. Date	Patentee	Class	Subclass	Filing Date
	3	5,299,414	4/5/1994	Long			7/24/1992
	4	3,910,017	10/7/1975	Thorud et al			7/26/1974
	5	4,302,878	12/1/1981	Bonforte			10/22/1979

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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Document Number	Publication Date	Country or Patent Office	Class	Subclass	Translation
							Yes No
	1	DE 38 07 105	28 Jul 1989	Germany			x
	2	AU 20520/88	16 Feb 1989	Australia			x
	6	DE 1701294	03 Jun 1955	Germany			x

OTHER PRIOR ART & NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS		
Examiner Initials	Cite No.	

<b>Examiner</b>		<b>Date</b>	
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4/15/2004